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1520 Geneva St.  
Bellingham, WA 98226  
June 6, 1999

Mr. Thomas W. Ferns  
U.S. Dept. of Energy  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550, MSIN H0-12  
Richland, WA. 99352-0550

**RECEIVED**  
**JUN 09 1999**  
**DOE-RL/DIS**

Dear Mr. Ferns,

I am writing to urge protection for the vitally important land around the Hanford Site. It is one of the last places in Eastern Washington where native species thrive. I support the "Preferred Alternative," but with these modifications:

- 1) [The Arid Lands Ecology Reserve  
The McGee Ranch  
DOE's entire Wahluke Slope  
the Hanford Reach  
the Columbia Islands

National

should be managed as a permanent Wildlife Refuge. I believe we need protected habitat land around the central Hanford.

2) I believe there should be no agriculture, commercial mining or livestock grazing permitted.

3) DOE should issue separate decisions for the areas above in # 1 for management of uncontaminated lands.

This is our last chance to save these ecologically valuable lands at Hanford. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Colleen + Jim Lourie  
360-733-8544